

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 19 are now pending in the application. Claim 1 is amended. The Applicant submits that no new subject matter is added.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §101

Claim 1 now states: "a method of operating a game being provided to a player on a gaming machine" [emphasis added]. Claim 1 and dependent claims now provides a concrete, tangible and useful result tied to a particular device or apparatus: a feature triggered on a gaming machine. The process of triggering a feature is concrete; it can be repeated and is predictable. The device on which that process is performed, the gaming machine, is specific. For these reasons, the claimed invention is believed to produce a concrete, tangible and useful result. Accordingly, rejections of claims 1-17 should be withdrawn.

It is submitted, therefore, that claims 1 to 19 are in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections is respectfully requested. Allowance of claims 1 to 19 at an early date is solicited.

In the event that there are any questions concerning these remarks or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

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